

RATIONALE FOR DELTA SUMMIT FOR LOCAL OFFICIALS-11/21/05

- *NO COORDINATED PLANNING. Jurisdiction over the land use, infrastructure and the resources of the Delta is dangerously fragmented. The Delta encompasses three regional councils of government, each only responsible for planning in their respective region. State agencies (e.g., DWR, CalTrans, HCD) also plan independently of one another. As a result, there is no unifying Delta regional identity or shared vision for the future.*
- *COMMUNICATION GAP. There is a wide "communication gap" between the state and local governments of the Delta. Communication among the local agencies of the Delta is also poor to nonexistent. The success of the state's floodplain management, flood control and regional water planning initiatives in the Delta depends on good communication and collaboration with and among local governments.*
- *EMERGENCY RESPONSE URGENT. In the near term, there is an urgent need to collaborate on a fully-integrated Delta-wide emergency response plan to address the risk from catastrophic levee failure.*
- *LONG-TERM VISION FOR THE DELTA. Many stakeholders are calling for development of a long-term vision for the Delta, which requires the understanding, participation and cooperation of area local governments if it is to succeed.*
- *LEADERSHIP NEEDED. State legislators who represent the Delta are in the best position to bring local officials from throughout the Delta together for the first time. A Delta Summit could provide local officials with vital information about critical public safety and planning issues and an opportunity to dialogue with their elected state representatives.*

Timeframe: *One-half day to be held in first quarter 2006.*

Format: *Presentations on key issues followed by dialog.*

Possible topics: *Delta levee vulnerability and emergency response and improving communication and coordination among the state and Delta local governments.*

Marci Coglianese (707) 374-6612 or marci.coglianese@comcast.net